

pressed it would appear to be the consensus of opinion that either might be the primary cause of the other. Dr. C. M. Cooper presented a patient with a rather unusual form of arrested development. The boy was a Russian, 16 years of age, and rather bright. The father gave a partial history of syphilis. There was total absence of the external auditory meatus and partial absence of the auricle. The semi-circular canals were shown in a radiogram. A plastic operation might easily be performed, but as the boy got along very comfortably he did not care to undergo the operation.

Dr. Cooper also called attention to a method of X-ray examination practiced by him, and so far as he knew, an original method. In examining the abdomen, he inflated the colon with air and then examined with the screen, thus being able to see clearly the shadow of the kidneys, liver, spleen, colon, etc. Dr. Moffitt commended the proceeding highly, and had found it of very great usefulness.

Dr. Thomas W. Huntington gave a resume of twelve cases of operation for posterior drainage of the stomach by means of posterior gastro-enterostomy. (This paper, or an abstract of it, will be published later.) The paper was discussed by Drs. Moffitt, Tait, Cooper and F. B. Carpenter.

Pacific Society of Railway Surgeons.

The Pacific Society of Railway Surgeons chose San Francisco as the meeting place for 1905, and the following officers were elected to serve the coming term:

President, Dr. N. W. Morrison, chief surgeon of the Santa Fe, San Francisco; first vice-president, Dr. H. W. Fenner, Tucson, A. T.; second vice-president, Dr. W. O. Spencer, Huntington, Or.; treasurer, Dr. F. L. Adams, Oakland; secretary, Dr. J. P. Dunn, Oakland; member of executive committee, Dr. E. M. Keys; committee on arrangements for the convention next year, Dr. W. B. Coffey and Dr. J. H. O'Connor of San Francisco and Dr. D. D. Crowley of Oakland.

STATE BOARD EXAMINATION, OCTOBER.

To the Editor of the STATE JOURNAL: An examination will be held by the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of California, at the city of San Francisco, commencing on the 25th of October, 1904. Credentials should be filed with the secretary at least ten days before the examination.

CHAS. L. TISDALE, Secretary.

STATE NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The California State Nurses' Association is an organization that should receive the heartiest support of every physician. "The object of the State Association is to unite into one body the County Associations and harmoniously work for the advancement of the graduate nurse and the establishment of higher standards and more thorough courses of study in our training schools. The State Association hopes to secure legislation which, through state registration of nurses, will mark a most important advance in the status of the profession in California." The association has commenced the publication of a journal, the first number of which was issued in August; the second number is to be issued in February, and thereafter it will be issued more often, if it meets with sufficient support. We certainly wish it every success, and we wish the association good luck in its efforts to secure registration.

American International Congress on Tuberculosis is to be held October 3d, 4th and 5th, 1904, under the auspices of the Universal Exposition, St. Louis, the American Congress on Tuberculosis and the Medico-Legal Society of New York.

PUBLICATIONS.

The Student's Handbook of Surgical Operations. By Sir Frederick Treves. New edition revised by the author and Jonathan Hutchinson Jr. (W. T. Keener & Co., Chicago), \$2.50 net. The need for handbooks or compends is questionable. In preparing for an examination in operative surgery the student will derive but meagre benefit from descriptions of operations, however well condensed they may be. On the contrary, a multiplicity of illustrations, especially colored illustrations, will prove of incalculable value. The latter fact is strikingly ignored in the present volume, "Abridged from the New Edition of Treves' Large Manual of Operative Surgery." Compiled hurriedly and with apparently no other object than to meet the publisher's order, it abounds in inaccuracies, and fails to even mention numerous important modern interventions. Bisection of the kidney in lithiasis is condemned as very bloody, dangerous, often leading to nephrectomy and causing death; cholecystectomy is not even alluded to, whereas useless or rare operations, such as pyloroplast and cholecystocenterostomy are described in detail; McBurney's incision in appendicectomy is deemed "clumsy and rather cramped." The description of Kocher's operation for goitre will amuse those who have visited that great master's clinic in Berne. A similar want of accuracy is noticeable in the illustrations. Figure III shows *one-half* of the pubes shaved in the operation for inguinal hernia. The typographical work and the binding are the very commendable features of this otherwise superfluous publication. D. T.

Eat California Fruit. Published by the Southern Pacific Company for free distribution. Time was when there was much bitterness throughout the state against the Southern Pacific; possibly it was earned, possibly not. Be that as it may, the Southern Pacific, at the present time and generation, in its advertising and promotion departments, is doing a wonderfully good work for California. The little pamphlet under discussion will be found of great interest to anyone who likes fruit—and who does not? To even the old Californian, or the "Native Son," it will be of interest and convey not a little of probably new information about our own state. To those who are so unfortunate as to be compelled to live elsewhere, it will be a revelation. Be an adjunct to the Promotion Department and distribute some of these pamphlets.

Surgical English, the awful atrocity, is having a most direful influence, and one that is spreading rapidly. And now comes the dignified *Journal of the A. M. A.*, and in an editorial on the "Pneumonia Commission," refers to "some of the best-known internists of the country"! Is there not a medical dictionary in the office of the *Journal*? An "internist" would, logically and etimologically, be one who had to do with an indoor practitioner of medicine, or a resident in a hospital. It does not seem probable that this is the sort of animal referred to. The medical dictionary says that a "physician is one who practices medicine," and a "surgeon one who practices surgery." Is not that sufficient distinction without dragging in a bastardized German expression?

Transactions of the Seventy-first Annual Session of the Tennessee State Medical Association, 1904. It contains a number of papers of interest which are buried in this form of publication. There is a list of members of the association covering 16 pages at the back of the book. With such a present membership, and with a practical certainty of greatly increasing it, one is filled with wonder that Tennessee has not already undertaken the publication of its transactions in journal form. Every state association that can afford it, ought to issue its own journal.

Serums, Vaccines and Toxines in Treatment and Diagnosis. By W. Cecil Bosanquet, M. A., M. D., etc. Published, in this country, by W. T. Keener & Co.,